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Country: Finland

Subject: Foreign Friendship Societies in Finland: Soviet/Rumanian/Chinese/Polish 25X1A9a

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Source:

1. "The following notes on foreign 'friendship societies' in Finland are dated March 1953:

Finnish-Soviet Society

2. The Finnish-Soviet Society (Suomi-Neuvostoliitto-Seura) in Helsinki was established in 1944.
3. The executive includes: Sylvi-Kyllikki Kilpi
Mauri Ryoma
Hella Vuolijoki, said to be a Soviet agent.
Gov. Vaino Meltti
Arvi Hautamaki
Goran von Bonsdorff, an aristocratic fellow-traveller.
Into Ahonen
Toivo Karvonen
Alpo Laaperi
4. The Society publishes a paper called SNS (its initials). Mme. Sylvi-Kullikki Kilpi is the chairman. In the January 53 issue she published an article in which she indirectly criticized the Norden (Scandinavian) Society and also the Suomalais-Amerikkalainen Yhdistys (Finnish-American Society) for harboring among their members persons opposed to peace.

Finnish-Rumanian Societies

5. There are two Rumanian societies in Finland:

- a) An anti-Communist Finnish-Rumanian Friendship Society was founded in 1943. It is headed by Eero Ryman, Arthur Langfors, V. J. Mausikka and Anni Voipio.
- b) A Communist Finnish-Rumanian Friendship Society was founded in 1951. It is headed by Risto Holttä, E. V. Aaltonen and Paavo Kivikoski.

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Sino-Finnish Societies

6. There are two Chinese societies in Finland:

- a) One was founded in 1949. It is headed by Jaakko Kaponen, Oskar Valkeapaa, and Otto Pitkanen.
- b) A pro-Communist Chinese society was founded in 1951 by Mauno Pekka, who has since died, Toivo Torvi and Ahti Sonninen.

Polish Organizations in Finland

7. The Suomi-Puola Yhdistys (Finnish-Polish Society), founded in 1951, is not entirely Communist-dominated because Finland has too many business (mainly coal) and emotional links with Poland to let the Society fall entirely into Communist hands. The Finnish Minister for Home Affairs, Professor V. J. Sukselainen, is a member; he is an Agrarian leader. The chairman of the Society is Erkki Vala, aged 51, a journalist and writer who revealed his radical tendencies long before World War II at the time that he was editor of Tulenkantajat, a highbrow radical periodical. He has worked for the Finnish radio, belongs to many radical organizations and is an active member of the SKDL (Suomen Kansan Demokraattinen Liitto). During World War II he was arrested in Sweden as a Soviet agent. The other members of the executive are: A. A. Enckell, V. J. Sukselainen and Vaino Tatari.
8. The old Finnish-Polish Society founded before World War II still exists unofficially. Its moving spirit was the late Professor Jalo Kalima. He looked after Polish interests in Finland during the war and helped many Poles. His brother, Eino Kalima, directs the National Theatre in Helsinki. He is a devoted friend of Poland and the Poles. Once a year, on Poland's National Day, the society meets privately for a coffee party.
9. The Polish Legation in Helsinki is much less active than the Polish Legation in Stockholm. The staff in Helsinki is small. There are no affiliated official or semi-official commercial and cultural representatives as in Stockholm. Since 1951 the legation in Helsinki has had no minister. The charge d'affaires is Kazimierz Kiewczynski, the First Secretary. Alex Gutman is Second Secretary. Franciszek Stojak is Trade Attache.
10. The Polish colony in Finland numbers only a score or two; almost all are Finnish subjects. The chairman for many years has been Wladyslaw Wnuk."

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